

M-1152

Tuesday, March 7, 1967

Must Remain in
Transcription Room

Last Friday, apropos of some tapes that I listened to last week from other places, I came to a conclusion that it was necessary to say something about use of tapes and for that reason I mentioned it on Friday although there were a limited number - some of you were there. So when I listened to it today, I thought I'd better play it tonight for you instead of repeating what I said - it would be the same thing I said anyhow but I think it is better that you hear it the way I said it on Friday so that then, when other groups will get a copy of this particular meeting, they will be reminded that they ought to listen to the tape of Friday. Maybe sometimes they do and sometimes they forget. So John we stop our regular machines now.

(Tape played was 1150)

So you see, this is what I meant. It's partly for other ~~groups~~ groups because as I said I was a little dissatisfied. The same applies to us. I don't think we work enough. And I think it is valuable that you work. Again I say, not for my sake. Firefly will be written in time. But to bring the things together in such a way that it may become useful to you afterwards - that I think is still a kind of an aim I have and I would like to ask your cooperation for that and at the same time, if you do it, you will profit tenfold because you don't know until you do it and then when you do do it and you have a chance ~~even~~ in transcribing when it goes a little slow, when you have to think maybe a couple of times in order to get the gist of what we have talked about and it might produce in you again the same kind of an atmosphere if you were present at the meeting or perhaps you can imagine how it might have been. It may be that at such a time your

feeling will be stirred a little and that perhaps because of that your desire to work may be advanced. In any event you will see there is a benefit to be derived from it, almost selfishly. But you will not know until you do and when you do that kind of an activity will have a result for many other people. Try to build something. It is building. It is something that has to be constructed in which all of us can join - some with a hammer, some with a saw, some with a nail, somehow or other, with a measuring stick, with an encouragement, with the possibility of being ~~and~~ and looking - I would almost say benevolently - at that what goes on as if it is part of you. Everybody is working for your building, you are working for someone else's building. All of us make out of that some edifice as if that is making living quarters in heaven and you have to make them. It is our life I am talking about. The possibility of the life of an inner man. A man who really understands why he happens to be a man on earth and who knows that at that kind of a time when he is willing to understand his outer life to such an extent that his inner life can come to the foreground, that he then is willing all together willing to give up and to lose his outer life to find his inner and to be able with his inner life to continue to fulfill the obligations which have been placed on him. I think as far as work is concerned of course you are () not only that we have talked a great deal about it but although you ought to know, you do know, you forget. That's the problem. You can be reminded. How will you remind yourself. What will you do again and again - when you get up in the morning and when you start with work, when you remember that that is needed, the desire that you then might have or sometimes the realization that you don't want to work at all. How do you start again and again accusing yourself, telling yourself you should and you know you have not done it so why should you. Again the reason - why do you want to work? What is it that should require on your part placing the accent of your life somewhere else and not only on that surface

performance - these little manifestations mostly of the physical body and very often simply prompted by a little bit of a feeling and maybe a thought going over into an activity, not worth very much and surely not enough even to consider ~~sex~~ for any length of time because maybe tomorrow you have forgotten this personality of yours - of all of us - that it is only useful for a certain purpose - the maintenance of that what we now call life on earth. How much attention we still give it, how much identification. And still the simplicity of Work will require that you will be reduced to psychological bread and water. No more. It isn't necessary. Only when you can afford it and you can buy ~~luxuries~~ luxuries - luxuries of heaven maybe, luxuries in the form of certain things that you know for yourself that can last and are more permanent. Why should you spend your energies on things that are being destroyed. Why not look for something that you can rely on forever and ever. Why not build something that is really worthwhile, that you can live in it, not in comfort but by constantly being in activity to help to maintain, even if you are (in balance) and your arms are outstretched, you keep in balance the two things. When you constantly are in that kind of an equilibrium, you cannot fall asleep. A balance is not asleep. A balance is active, even if it is still standing still, it is still in a balance because the two forces that act on it are compensating each other and they are equal. All of this you see constantly you have to remember how necessary it is for you to keep on collecting all kind of data about yourself because you don't know half of what you are and that half probably that you might know you like to forget if you have seen it once because you don't like it enough. You are the totality, like an earth which part of the time is in light and partly in darkness. Each personality has its good and its bad sides. We are all that way because we are constantly subject to the two forces as we live on earth. Both the sun and the moon influence us. Everything

astrologically explained will explain that there are opposing forces in each man, and that it is not always possible to turn the right kind of a force to the foreground where it may be needed and that at times we are simply, automatically, performers of a task because it has been imprinted in us and we have never been able to counter act it because we have followed the line of least ~~xxx~~ resistance or at least we have done everything unconsciously. For that reason you see you have to collect data, facts, of how you are, what your life is, how you behave, how you are with other people, how you react, what you do during the whole day, unconsciously except for a few light points - they are like ~~stars~~ stars of course in the night - it still is dark and only when the sun comes there will be real light for one. It's a long period. And in that time you collect information about yourself. We are the earth, our body is. We have (ploughed) in the soil; something has to be sown - objectivity, the introduction of some new kind of a plant or a new form - and we plow, we prepare, we collect data, we find facts. This is the accumulation. It belongs to the preparation of course for work. It is not work but it is a necessary requirement in order to find gradually a foundation on which one really can stand more or less, assuming that ~~xxx~~ that what we see is correct, but at least for the time being that becomes our working hypothesis. The axiom will be objective knowledge. But the working hypothesis is still subjectivity and with that we start to work and this plowing, this preparing of the soil, now it starts. It has to be made ready to ~~xxx~~ receive seed - seed in the form of real work, seed in the form of wanting to wake up, making efforts, so as to gradually introduce into this ~~totality~~ of growing something that is, I call it, more permanent because it is not of this earth. How permanent it is I do not know because I will only know when it starts to die again. I may believe that my emotional body will last forever but I also know that it cannot because something still has to be done

in order to, you might say, destroy it so that out of that a possibility of a Soul will start to exist. And then I say, for the sake of an argument, in order to satisfy myself - that Soul - that is eternal. Little do I know about it. But you see I'm nothing else but a farmer now and I have soil to prepare. What do I use. A harrow. A ~~big~~ harrow tries to pulverize that what are still the lumps. The lumps are my habits. The lumps are my tendencies. They stick together somehow or other as glue, sometimes quite hard. Sometimes it is difficult, maybe I have to harrow several times, to go over it time and time again in order to, not to eradicate it but to bring it, to ~~be~~ bring the soil to a particular kind of a condition in which then when it is pulverized it will be able to become porous and also will be more efficient whenever the seed is sown into it. You see this harrowing, this terrible period for oneself in which one starts to recognize that that what the soil is, is not entirely correct. This particular period in which one starts to realize that that what we are is really not at all right for the purpose for which it should have been created and perhaps was created but for some reason or other, explained maybe as some kind of a theory, we find ourselves in a condition of complete inability even to become conscious, let alone to do work and fulfill the tasks that have been laid on us - again, by assumption, - by the Lord, who governs the condition of the soil ultimately, who only will have the ^{rain} ~~seed~~ come and the sun shine when the soil has been prepared, when it has been pulverized, when the harrowing experience has passed of seeing oneself for what one is and that one is willing to accept that and constantly keep at it for any length of time until ~~it~~ finally that soil is right enough to receive seed of Work, the understanding that then is necessary. Who will (), my "I" of course. And the soil - it is me, my personality, this time prepared because it is loose from the ~~big~~ lumps, it has lost the lumps, that what has been dissolved, that what has held together my personality in this life on this earth, with which I always have gone around and about which sometimes I have been quite proud

because it made me to be respected and admired. This kind of () that holds me together as lumps, that is now broken up, the impact of the ideas of perhaps that things may not be exactly the way they look, that perhaps certain things are different, that maybe they are upside down, maybe that I wake up out of the sleep of kundabuffer, maybe I start to realize that the possibility of freedom is there if I only could find that particular kind of key, and in this searching, this turning over of the soil and this plowing and then, as I say, this gradually straightening it out and putting it in a good shape so that it is in its pulverized form more ready to receive that what ought to grow into it - this now as Work I plant. I sow it. Sometimes here and there the soil is still a little hard. It doesn't take. Sometimes there is not enough rain. Sometimes too much sunshine. Sometimes maybe it still falls on the road. Maybe it is not all successful. Maybe sometimes the kind of seed that I will ~~lose~~ use in the beginning may not be fit for the soil to germinate and maybe sometimes the kind of seed I use may not be hundred per cent objective and it may not immediately germinate. Sometimes it may even be a little too old or too old fashioned. These are the processes for a farmer. These are the processes for a man who wants to grow and apply for himself in his life this particular possibility for him that he knows that if everything could be done in the right way that ultimately the grain will come up. It will ~~grow~~ grow and then when it has started to grow, under the influence of the care of "I", that then it will have a life of its own and ultimately again it will bear fruit. This building of fruit, this starting, this grain coming out of the soil, this grain having its roots in earth of my body, this is Kesdjan and the fruit is my Soul. It requires special preparation to prepare the soil, to prepare then the Kesdjanian arrangement and environment and again then to prepare the condition for fruit. But we don't worry about that as yet. We are still in the springtime. We are still hoping that the frost will leave us, that someday

it will be possible to plow. And the gathering of that kind of information about ourselves so that we know at which time and where and how to attack this earth, how to know where are the Achilles heels of this body, to know how to be at times, (where) and how then and what strength may be necessary in order to, maybe sometimes using a hammer, to hit the lumps that are still a little bit too tight and that not even a harrow will be able to pulverize, to make it smaller and smaller. You see this kind of Wax Work, this kind of all the time thinking how is the (weather), it is it right for this purpose, is my plow sharp enough, is it reliable, who will pull it - of course, my heart pulls it. It has to. It's the horse you know. It has to be done in some way that it is - I cannot rely on other subjectivity in the form of gasoline. I have to have (my life), life as a horse, as an ~~any~~ animal, surely to produce a plant. But the plant is mine because I have grown it with the help of God. If you can only see your life like that. If you realize how much not only there is to be done but how much already has been done that can be used and is for you to be used at the proper time and in the proper way, in such a way that even the landlord can be satisfied with your activity even if he knows that when he looks and he sees the grain and it is affected by the wind, when it blows here and there, and it ~~support~~ supports the heavy weight of the fruit. The strength that there has to be in the particular stem; the strength that has to be in Keadjianian body in order to ~~carry~~ carry the Soul and then when the seeds are there (in utter stability) it is like the density of the Soul leaving the body. It is then as if it will leave earth, as if everything that has been prepared can then properly die because that what was the meaning of its growing is now fulfilled in the fruit which continues to exist and continues to represent life of another kind, maybe of a different form, maybe not as much of this earth, maybe at a certain place on this earth again and again, maybe in recurrence repeating, maybe as small seed being carried by the wind to nobody

knows where. I say this life of oneself, this way with which we have to live, this world in which we happen to live, this particular condition on earth as we are now experiencing which is not very happy. Civilization which kills us. Fumes and everything, poison sprays, not being able to understand even ordinary life for ~~ourselves~~ ourselves because material, vegetables and so forth, they are already spoiled partly and they are ~~undig~~ indigestible because they are so-called preserved. We live in this. We take it in all the time. Our outer life takes it in, not your inner life. Your inner life can remain undisturbed. Where it starts and where the outer life ends no one knows it. It's a gradual change from the periphery to the center and the center is your Magnetic Center. Around it is ~~your~~ your essential essence. Around that is your essence. Around that is the periphery of your life. One starts to live by the accumulation of facts - one puts them all on the outside, the circumference of one's life. There they are to be seen by everyone - the manifestations of a personality, the way he behaves as he lives in this world and as he has to live, of course, because that is all he knows. And where is his inner life. A little deeper. How is it reached. Through one's feeling, a little deeper, an emotion. A little more upsetting, a little bit more conditioning in some way that one is disturbed, in some way that that what becomes a problem cannot be solved because it is not solvable on the surface of one's life. How does one work then. What is it that we are affected by now I say because the atmosphere is already so poisonous, the attitude of people and friends - they are poison because they are selfish like I am. We do not love each other. ~~we~~ We cannot because we are so busy loving ourselves, our money, our time, our energy, our possessions, we cannot part with them as yet. What will we do. ~~Supposing~~ Supposing a catastrophe happened - it well might you know - the conditions on earth are not going to be permanent. Maybe there are certain things possible that we don't know enough about. Maybe we think about it, maybe there are you might say forecasts or

prophecies of a certain kind and then what and then when it happens and here we are all of a sudden with an earthquake, with fires, with destruction. What is our computer system going to do? What are we going to do when we are little bits of computers and we have no dexterity ~~and no other~~ just an adaptation to ordinary life because we have to make some money. What are we with ourselves and inside - how will we survive. It's a big problem because you are not equipped for it and you never think of it. In the first place you assume that the conditions will always be like this, perhaps a little worse traffic, but you will make adjustments and then science will take care of everything with an extra push button and that we can continue to live even if the standard of living is a little bit higher, we have to make a little bit more money in order to pay expenses and we keep on collecting antiques because maybe you never can tell how afterwards you can sell them. But what is it that we do about ourselves? How do we equip ourselves for such a possible future and perhaps not so far away. Don't fool yourself too much. Prepare for the future. You never know what is in store and how will we meet it. With knowledge? Knowledge (can be taught). Paintings? nobody will buy. In the first place there won't be money. In the second place there won't be ~~much~~ admiration because people will be so busy trying to find where they themselves can live and what they can do in order to keep their own mouths open. So what will happen? The earth will be (drained). Will it still be possible to grow certain things. If I grow and I know how, maybe I can sell because people still have to eat. If I know how to make a house maybe I can build for someone because someone still has to live. If I have a dexterity of any kind, something that I can do with my body, the ability that I know how to do it and of course forced by the wish as a necessity since I have to make a living - I will equip myself in such a way that I will be useful and that then because of that I will be able to survive. Our equipment - what is it? What can we use in case of an emergency? Not too much knowledge and not too many views that I have had of TV. They won't

buy me anything whatsoever and they will not enable me to continue to live. It won't help me to be able to say that every evening I have sat in front of it and lost ~~wasted the~~ energy. What will I do with my ability with my hands? What can I do? As a certain knowledge of that ~~what~~ what are the necessary requirements of living. Baking bread. Washing. How to clean a house. How to cook. Because there always will be mouths to feed and if I know, why shouldn't I become an obyvatel and live in simplicity ever hereafter provided I live, provided ~~that~~ for the purpose that in living that the other part of me that is really much more important, because even when a catastrophe occurs, why should I even have a wish to continue to live on this damned earth. There has to be a motivation in which now has to be built in one together with the ordinary little dexterities that I will acquire in order to have my body survive so that it can have some food. What is the aim of my life if I cannot after the catastrophe even find the opportunity to build something that is really important so that then I can say good bye to this so-called proud world because I'm going home. With what? Keshdjan? Soul? Under my arm. Can I leave. Can I say good bye to that what is now so dear to me. Where is it that I can start a living. Where is it and with what can I overcome the difficulties that I surely will experience sooner or later because I cannot assume that everything will be bunky dory all the time. Roses, roses, as Gurdjieff would say. The development of oneself - that what is inner life - that what has to grow; that what has to dare to be presented to the world, that what will come out if it is called, when one has an "It" to call it, and then to take it by the hand and gradually guide it again and again in life in order to derive from life whatever it is that is available for the further growth of that what is inside one. And that that what is inside finally in its development becomes light enough to leave this earth in time. Learn to find the time, the day, the possibility of when you might leave and try then to adjust the rest of your life, young as you may be, in such a way that there are certain sections and parts which

in time you will use for the purpose of certain things that you now set out to do exactly the same way as when you sow that you then expect after some time to get really ten fold or hundred fold, whatever it may be, out of that kind of seed that you have sown in the soil of your own personality. Try to see what your life will be in the future. Consider it well. The time is not so very long. Certain things are long - life is long - life always is - life is eternal. And therefore if I attach myself to life, if I somehow or other can consider life as if I wish a star to be attached to, then to go up towards heaven. If I at the present time can understand my life as it is in reality and that I - this part of me belonging to life becomes part of it - join it, grow with it, grow into it, unite, fuse, become one. This is of course eternity. This is of course the final answer and it is the ultimate aim. And now we work. Slowly. Very simply, day by day, sometimes hour by hour, seriously, honestly, willingly, understandingly, yearning, willing to give up, to understand what price has to be paid, to pay it if I can, to wish to pay it if I cannot as yet, hoping that someday, somehow or other, I will reach freedom, that I then honestly can say, I've paid for my existence. Farewell Mother Nature.. You stay where you are but I know where I go. Such thoughts if you can have them early in the morning when you sit and meditate so-called, when you think about yourself, when you think about God in yourself as if at such a time you wish Him to come and tell you how to act during that day, how to act, how really to be, how to live, find out if you have a conscience and with that conscience adjust yourself to follow it whatever it may tell you and to be able to do it because you are willing to do it, almost to the extent I say, God I love you - I am willing to give everything including my Soul, and then God will say but you have none and then you say but I'll make one to give to you, and he says if you make it you keep it because that's me.

In connection with what I said a little while ago, you think now about how can you - what is it that you feel for each other - what can you really actualize among yourselves - fifty percent of your time - ten percent maybe of your ~~essence~~ essence - one percent of the reality of that what you know and what you cannot express - all of that maybe at the proper time, in the proper relation, in the proper proportion, maybe it can be brought out sometimes and someone will also know and will respond. Your responsibility towards others and towards yourself. The observation necessary for you and then including the observation of taking anyone as they are, exactly the same way as you take yourself as you are, and in that acceptance one is impartial because you do not wish it to be different. In accepting others people as they are and not wishing them to be different - this is the impartiality - this is the ability to live with others - this is the acknowledgement of that what is is and cannot be different as long as it's unconscious and not to expect anything, any kind of a change until others start to Work and then with that kind of an understanding you will know that they can be different & at such a time even that it may be possible to tell them, please wake up. Because you know what it is to be awake. But when they don't know, you have no right even to talk about being awake. Because if you talk about awakesness to someone who is asleep you are asleep yourself. So we Work now. You ~~see~~ see now tonight - no questions. Tonight I said enough about the necessity of going over whatever tapes there are, the subjects that you can help to put in place, pigeon hole, bring notes, what do you do, what can you do, what is there for you within your means to help on that basis to see if we cannot build, I say, a little ediface. Maybe we build a library, not of tapes but of ~~material~~ material, nothing else but cards, reference cards, left and right, front and back, maybe card boxes on the ceiling, maybe you & walk on them, such a room to find life - information - living to find death changed into life, to find reality, to find yourself. That is what the cards are for. Just yourself, your forgotten self, for that you have to look up this and that and collect and maybe

go back in time and find out then what was there at the time when you were young, when you like many children at the present time you see unspoiled, that self. Maybe that you can find and when you find it maybe you can know it and with that kind of self knowledge it will give you the understanding which is now required in your life as it is at the present time. Self knowledge of that what you were was enough for the time when you were not spoiled. Understanding is now necessary in order to undo the so-called self knowledge which you have and again this self-knowledge, this gathering of data, this preparation of the soil, this hoping that the lord will bless the labor of your hands, to do that, to do it with all your heart, to do it in accordance with whatever knowledge, and as you ~~sow~~ sow to stand and your feet on the ground planted on the soil that you have prepared, that is your past, that was the accumulation of facts, and then in sowing you sow the future of yourself.

I'll see you next week I hope. Good night.

End.